

MARKET NEWS SERVICE ON FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

U. S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE
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Michigan Department of
Agriculture, Bureau of
Foods & Standards, Coop.

MARKETING THE MICHIGAN CELERY CROP
A brief review of the (1946) Season
by
C. B. Miller

The following summary is a compilation based on Market News reports issued by the United States Department of Agriculture, Production and Marketing Administration, Fruit and Vegetable Branch, from August 1 to November 22, 1946 at Benton Harbor, Michigan.

National Situation

The United States production of celery in 1946 was estimated by the Crop Reporting Board, Washington, D. C. as of December 1, 1946 at 22,722,000 crates (1/2 crates of approximately 65 lbs per crt) 18% above the 1945 crop of 19,316,000 crates and 40% above the 10-year (1935-44) average of 16,227,000 crates. In the 6 summer group States, production was estimated at 2,360,000 crates compared with 2,031,000 crates in 1945 and the 10-year average of 2,243,000 crates. In this group, comprised of New York, New Jersey, Ohio, Michigan, Indiana and Oregon, increases in production were shown by all except Oregon, which was slightly below that of 1945, and Indiana, which has shown no appreciable production in 1945 or 1946. In the 8 early fall group States, production increases were shown by all States except Pennsylvania, which was only slightly below that of 1945. New York's 1946 production was almost twice that of 1945, but remaining States in this group showed only a moderate increase. Total production for this group was estimated at 6,033,000 crates compared with 4,406,000 crates in 1945 and 4,589,000 crates for the 10-year average.

Total celery acreage for the United States for 1946 was estimated at 49,300 acres compared with 43,890 acres in 1945 and 39,570 acres for the 10-year average.

Michigan Situation

Michigan's 1946 celery production for the summer crop was estimated by the Crop Reporting Board, Washington, D. C. as of December 1, 1946 at 1,100,000 crates compared with 950,000 crates in 1945 and 952,000 crates for the 10-year (1935-44) average. The estimate for the fall crop was 2,116,000 crates compared with 2,002,000 crates in 1945 and 1,608,000 crates for the 10-year average. The total production for the summer and fall crops was estimated at 3,216,000 crates, 9% above the 1945 crop of 2,952,000 crates and 26% above the 10-year (1935-44) average of 2,560,000 crates.

The 1946 Michigan celery acreage showed a slight increase over that of 1945. Total acreage for this year was estimated at 6,800 acres compared with 6,550 acres in 1945 and 6,310 acres for the 10-year average. Yields for the 1946 crop also showed an increase over that of 1945. For the summer crop, 1946 yields were estimated at 500 crates per acre compared to 475 crates in 1945 and 467 crates for the 10-year average. For the fall crop, yields were set at 460 crates per acre compared to 440 crates in 1945 and 370 crates for the 10-year average.

Quality and condition of the 1946 crop was generally good both for Golden Heart and Pascal varieties. Very little blight damage or seeders was reported. Weather conditions were generally favorable and no appreciable damage was reported by late fall freezes.

Marketing

Disposition of the 1946 crop proved a difficult task for Michigan growers and shippers. Demand was very slow throughout the deal and f.o.b. values were approximately half of those realized in 1945. Considerable complaints were reported due to poor grading and packing, which further reduced demand and values. From the time f.o.b. sales were reported, beginning August 2, Golden Heart variety, Washed and packed in 1/2 crates, ranged \$1.10-1.40 per crate until around November 12 when some storage stock realized as high as \$1.75. This increase was due to the Thanksgiving holiday demand. Golden Heart packed in 16" crates ranged \$1.40-1.65 throughout the season, however, reported sales were scattered and volume of stock packed in this container was very light.

Truck receipts of celery over the Benton Harbor Cash Market amounted to 14 carlot equivalents and compares with 11 carlot equivalents in 1945. Most offerings were in dozen bunches with extremely slow trading during the Cash Market season. This year's average weighted price per doz. bunches was set at \$.34 compared with \$.65 in 1945.

Shipments

1946 rail shipments of Michigan celery totaled 946 cars compared with 1268 cars in 1945. This year's monthly shipments were as follows: June - 34 cars, July - 240 cars, August - 242 cars, September - 171 cars, October - 162 cars, November - 80 cars, December - 15 cars, and January - 2 cars.

The celery truck movement was extremely heavy to nearby markets, principally Chicago and Detroit, however, no record is available on this movement.

Distribution

A tabulation of carlot shipments of Michigan celery from August 2 through November 20 indicates cars were billed to 59 Cities in 22 States and the District of Columbia. Destinations unreported prior to opening of Market News office and after November 20 totaled 387 cars.

MONTHLY CARLOT SHIPMENTS OF CELERY BY STATES DURING MICHIGAN SHIPPING SEASON - 1946

STATE	1946 : June	: July	: Aug.	: Sept.	: Oct.	: Nov.	: Dec.	: Jan. 1947
Arizona	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Calif., N.D.	-	-	-	-	93	1051	880	75
Calif., S.D.	1081	213	20	-	1	3	79	373
Calif., C.D.	15	83	170	219	503	1138	1361	888
Colorado	-	34	44	36	14	4	1	-
Florida	295	-	-	-	-	16	478	1560
Idaho	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
MICHIGAN	34	240	242	171	162	80	15	2
New York	-	2	240	419	526	306	93	9
Oregon	14	118	91	69	120	32	-	-
Utah	-	-	16	299	245	2	-	-
Va. Norf. S.	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Washington	-	3	9	33	46	-	-	-
TOTAL U.S.	1447	693	832	1246	1710	2633	2907	2910

Subject to revision.

CELERY PRODUCTION (for Market): COMMERCIAL CROP 1/

Crop report as of December 1, 1946. Production with comparisons. Released by Crop Reporting Board, Washington, D. C., December 18, 1946

SEASONAL GROUP AND STATE	A C R E A G E			Y I E L D P E R A C R E			P R O D U C T I O N		
	10-yr 3/ average	1945	1946	10-yr av. 3/	1945	1946	10-yr 3/ average	1945	1946
	1935-44			35-44			1935-44		
	- Acres -			- Crates 4/ -			- 1,000 crates 4/ -		
<u>Winter:</u>									
Florida	5,060	6,800	8,550	523	545	497	5/2,636	5/3,706	5/4,249
California	1,780	1,800	2,500	683	750	625	1,213	1,350	1,562
Arizona		250	930		805	475		201	442
Group Total	6,840	8,850	11,980	555	594	522	2,849	5,257	6,253
<u>Spring:</u>									
Florida	2,510	4,250	4,900	475	425	447	5/1,186	5/1,806	5/2,190
California	1,520	1,800	2,250	820	960	840	1,235	1,728	1,890
Group Total	4,030	6,050	7,150	602	584	571	2,421	3,534	4,080
<u>Summer:</u>									
New York	450	650	700	386	325	400	176	211	280
New Jersey	1,170	1,000	1,200	244	250	270	285	250	324
Ohio	1,240	850	890	440	450	475	542	382	423
MICHIGAN	2,020	2,000	2,200	467	475	500	952	950	1,100
Indiana	40			245			9		
Oregon	490	580	440	560	410	530	273	238	233
Group Total	5,400	5,080	5,430	415	400	435	2,243	2,031	2,360
<u>Early Fall:</u>									
New York	4,100	3,700	4,100	349	250	435	1,423	925	5/1,784
Pennsylvania	990	550	500	336	360	380	334	198	190
Ohio	910	600	660	362	425	425	336	255	280
Indiana	90	80	80	342	440	560	30	35	45
MICHIGAN	4,290	4,550	4,600	370	440	460	1,608	2,002	2,116
Colorado	1,290	1,350	1,800	338	330	340	436	446	5/612
Utah	480	410	950	312	700	650	153	287	5/618
Washington	510	470	700	529	550	555	269	258	388
Group Total	12,660	11,710	13,390	363	376	451	4,589	4,406	6,033
<u>Late Fall:</u>									
California	10,100	11,700	10,750	298	340	360	3,009	3,978	3,870
Idaho	15			367			7		
New Jersey	520	500	600	209	220	210	109	110	126
Group Total	10,640	12,200	11,350	294	335	352	3,125	4,088	3,996
ALL STATES	39,570	43,890	49,300	409	440	461	16,227	19,316	22,722

1/ Includes celery used for processing.
 3/ Note that the total 10-year average figures ("group" and "all States") are the averages of the yearly totals, not the sum of the State or group averages.
 4/ Equivalent 1/2 crates of approximately 65 pounds.
 5/ Includes some quantities not marketed and excluded in computing value; Florida, winter-82,000 crates in 1945 and 77,000 in 1946; spring-20,000 in 1945 and 74,000 in 1946; New York, early fall-268,000 in 1945; Colorado-50,000 in 1946; Utah-208,000 in 1946.

DAILY F.O.B. CELERY PRICES AT WESTERN MICHIGAN SHIPPING POINTS - 1946

Basis of sales: Sales f.o.b. shipping point and delivered sales shipping point basis. Golden Heart variety, washed, U. S. No. 1 grade, 2 1/2-4 doz. size.

DATE	1/2 crates	16" wirebound crts:	DATE	1/2 crates	16" wirebound crts
Aug. 2	\$1.25-1.40		Sept. 13	\$1.25-1.30	\$1.40-1.50
5	1.25-1.30		16	1.25-1.30	1.40-1.45
6	1.25-1.30		19	1.20-1.30	1.40
7	1.25-1.30		20	1.20-1.30	1.40
8	1.25-1.30		23	1.20-1.30	
9	1.25-1.30		25	1.20-1.25	
12	1.25-1.35		26	1.20-1.25	
13	1.25-1.30	\$1.65	27	1.20-1.25	
14	1.25-1.30		30	1.20-1.25	
15	1.25-1.30		Oct. 1	1.20-1.25	
16	1.25-1.30		2	1.20-1.25	
19	1.25-1.30		3	1.20-1.30	1.40-1.45
20	1.25-1.30		4	1.20-1.30	1.40-1.45
21	1.25-1.30		7	1.10-1.25	1.40
22	1.20-1.30		8	1.10-1.25	1.40
23	1.20-1.25		9	1.10-1.25	
26	1.15-1.25		10	1.10-1.25	
27	1.15-1.25		11-27	Too few sales to quote.	
28	1.15-1.25		28	1.10-1.15	
29	1.15-1.25		29	1.10-1.15	
30	1.15-1.25		30	1.10-1.15	
Sept. 3	1.25		31	1.10-1.15	
4	1.25-1.35		Nov. 6	1.50	
5	1.25-1.35		7	1.15-1.40	
6	1.25-1.30		11	1.25	
9	1.25-1.30		12	1.35-1.65	
10	1.35		13	1.60-1.65	
11	1.25-1.30	1.40-1.45	14	1.35-1.75	
12	1.25-1.35	1.40-1.50	18	1.60-1.75	
			20	1.50	

WEEKLY PRICE RANGE JOBBING SALES MICHIGAN CELERY 1946 IN IMPORTANT MARKETS

Note: Prices quoted are on the basis of generally good merchantable quality stock, variety and type of containers as indicated.

		<u>C H I C A G O</u>				<u>DETROIT</u>		<u>CINCINNATI</u>	
WEEK	ENDING	Golden Heart	Pascal	Golden Heart	Pascal	Bunches	Bunches	Pascal	Pascal
		: Double	: 16" wirebd:	: 16" crates:	: 16" crates:	: 1 doz	: 16" crates:	: 1/2 crates	: 1/2 crates
Aug.	3	\$1.00-1.50	\$.50-1.00	\$1.00-2.00		\$.50			
	10	1.00-1.25	.75-1.25	1.25-2.00		.50			
	17	1.00-1.50	.75-1.25	1.25-1.75	1.00-1.50	.50			
	24	.60-1.25	.50-1.00	1.00-1.75	.50-1.25	\$1.25	.50		
	31	.75-1.25	.75- .90	1.15-1.75	.75- .85		.50	\$2.50-4.00	\$2.00-2.25
Sept.	7	1.00-1.75	1.00-1.25	1.50-1.75	1.00-1.50	1.25-1.75	.50	2.50	2.25-2.50
	14	.75-1.50	.60-1.00	1.25-1.75	.75-1.00		.50		2.00-2.50
	21	.75-1.25	.60- .85	1.50-2.00	.75-1.15	1.50-2.00	.50		
	28	1.00-1.25	.75-1.25	1.50-1.75			.50		
Oct.	5	.90-1.50	.75-1.00	1.25-1.75			.50		
	12	.75-1.25	.75- .85	1.50-2.00			.50		
	19	.85-1.25	.75-1.00	1.50-1.75			.60		
	26	.90-1.25	.75- .90	1.00-1.50			.35- .60		
Nov.	2	.90-1.25	.75-1.00	1.25			.25- .60		
	9	1.00-2.25	.75-1.50	1.00-2.00	1.15-1.50		.60- .70		
	16	1.00-1.75	.85-1.00		1.00-1.25		.35- .70		
	23	1.25-2.25	1.00-1.25		1.25-1.65		.40- .70		

		<u>S T L O U I S</u>				<u>P I T T S B U R G H</u>	
WEEK	ENDING	Golden Heart	Pascal	Golden Heart	Pascal	Bunches	Pascal
		: Bunches	: Bunches	: 16" crates:	: 16" crates:	: 16" crates	: 16" crates
Aug.	3	\$.40- .55					
	10	.40- .60	\$.60- .75	\$1.00-2.00			
	17	.35- .50	.65- .75	1.00-1.50			
	24	.40- .50	.50- .65		\$1.25-1.50	\$1.50-1.75	
	31	.35- .50			2.00-2.50	2.00-2.25	\$.75-1.00
Sept.	7	.35- .60	.65		1.50-2.50	1.75	.75-2.25
	14	.50- .60	.75		1.90-2.50		
	21	.45- .55	.70- .75		2.00-2.35		
	28	.45- .55			2.25-2.35		
Oct.	5	.45- .65	.65- .75	\$1.10-1.25	2.25-2.35		
	12	.50- .55		1.75	1.10-1.25	1.75-2.35	
	19	.45- .50		1.50-1.75	1.10-1.25	2.15-2.35	
	26	.45- .50	.70		1.00-1.15	2.00-2.35	
Nov.	2	.25- .60			1.00-1.15	2.00-2.35	
	9	.50- .75	.85		1.00-1.15	2.50	
	16	.50- .75	.90		1.15-1.25	2.40-2.75	2.35-2.50
	23	.50- .75			1.25	2.00-2.50	

		<u>KANSAS CITY</u>		<u>MILWAUKEE</u>		<u>M I N N E A P O L I S</u>	
WEEK	ENDING	Golden Heart	Bunches	Golden Heart	Double	Golden Heart	Pascal
		: 1/2 crates:	: 1 doz	: 1/2 crates:	: Hi-Balls:	: Howard	: Pascal
Aug.	10	\$2.00-2.50	\$.70- .80	\$1.50-1.75	\$1.25	\$2.00-3.00	
	17	2.00-2.50	.75- .80	1.75	1.25-1.75	1.75-2.75	\$3.75
	24	2.00-2.50	.75- .80			1.75-2.75	3.75
	31	2.00-2.25	.70- .80			1.75-2.75	
Sept.	7	2.00-2.50	.75	1.50-1.75			\$1.75
	14	1.50-2.50	.70- .75	1.75-2.00		1.75-2.00	\$3.00-3.25
	21	1.50-2.50	.70- .75	1.00-1.75		1.75-2.50	1.25-1.50
	28	1.50-2.00	.75- .80	1.25-1.75		1.75-2.00	1.25-1.50
Oct.	5	1.50		1.00-1.50		1.75-2.00	1.25-2.00
	12	1.75		1.00-1.50		1.75-2.00	
	19	1.50-2.00		1.00-2.00			
	26	1.75		1.00-1.85			
Nov.	2	1.50-1.75		1.25-1.50			
	9			1.25-2.00			
	16			2.00-2.25			

BENTON HARBOR CASH MARKET CELERY 1946 SEASON WITH COMPARISONS PREVIOUS YEARS
(Dozens & Crates)

(Season)	(Total Packages)	(Average Value per Doz.)	(Total Value for Season)	Carlot Equiv.
1946	31,065	\$.34	\$ 10,562.10	14
1945	23,311	.65	15,152.15	11
1944	34,541	.65	22,451.65	16
1943	47,004	.70	32,902.80	22
1942	59,533	.33	19,645.89	27
1941	85,592	.25	21,398.00	39
1940	79,257	.20	15,851.40	36
1939	88,642	.23	20,387.66	40
1938	109,508	.17	18,616.36	50
1937	82,321	.20	16,464.20	37

PRIMARY DESTINATIONS OF MICHIGAN CARROT CELERY SHIPMENTS

Destinations are from August 1, 1946 through November 22, 1946

State and City	Cars	State and City	Cars	State and City	Cars
<u>Alabama</u>		<u>Nebraska</u>		<u>Virginia</u>	
Birmingham	7	Omaha	4	Camp Lee	6
Mobile	11			Fort Belvoir	3
Montgomery	1	<u>New Jersey</u>		Lynchburg	2
Total	19	Jersey City	5	Norfolk	23
				Richmond	7
<u>District of Columbia</u>		<u>New York</u>		Roanoke	1
Washington	4	Buffalo	5	Total	42
		New York	1		
<u>Florida</u>		Total	6	<u>Wisconsin</u>	
Alma	3			Appleton	3
Jacksonville	16	<u>North Carolina</u>		Appleton Jct.	16
Miami	49	Charlotte	4	Green Bay	84
Tampa	6	Durham	2	Manitowoc	1
Total	74	Fort Bragg	2	Milwaukee	6
		Goldsboro	1	Total	110
<u>Georgia</u>		Raleigh	4		
Atlanta	14	Rocky Mount	1	<u>SUMMARY BY STATES</u>	
Augusta	1	South Durham	3	Alabama	19
Total	15	Winston-Salem	1	District of Columbia	4
		Total	18	Florida	74
<u>Illinois</u>				Georgia	15
Blue Island	12	<u>Ohio</u>		Illinois	95
Chicago	83	Cincinnati	7	Kentucky	1
Total	95	Columbus	1	Louisiana	50
		Toledo	10	Maine	1
<u>Kentucky</u>		Total	18	Maryland	5
Edgerton	1			Michigan	22
		<u>Pennsylvania</u>		Minnesota	1
<u>Louisiana</u>		Philadelphia	2	Missouri	4
New Orleans	50	Pittsburgh	12	Nebraska	4
		Wilkes-Barre	1	New Jersey	5
<u>Maine</u>		Total	15	New York	6
Lewiston	1			North Carolina	18
		<u>South Carolina</u>		Ohio	18
<u>Maryland</u>		Columbia	1	Pennsylvania	15
Bainbridge	4	Greenville	3	South Carolina	4
Colora	1	Total	4	Tennessee	4
Total	5			Texas	42
		<u>Tennessee</u>		Virginia	42
<u>Michigan</u>		Memphis	1	Wisconsin	110
Detroit	7	Nashville	3		
Holland	1	Total	4	Total	559
Ishpeming	14			Unreported by	
Total	22	<u>Texas</u>		Railroads	387
		Brownsville	1		
<u>Minnesota</u>		Dallas	28	<u>SEASON TOTAL</u>	946
Minneapolis	1	Fort Worth	1		
		San Antonio	12		
<u>Missouri</u>		Total	42		
St. Louis	4				

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Released: Benton Harbor, Michigan
March 24, 1947